All the restructuring is fine and better left to Hams better qualified than I. However I will make one commit.

As for the code test, It is time we in the US come up to speed with the rest of the world.

For the most part, the rest of the world is in agreement, code is not required for a  ${\tt HAM}$  Ticket.

For example, even the US Coast guard has totally abandoned its code monitoring for the past few years.

With the advent of more reliable and useful communications like satellite that they, the use code is little unused and for the most part dead but for the hams that chouse to use it.

Those that say code is the most reliable mode for emergencies, I say yes, it may be. But to REQUIRE it is like requiring smoke singles. Even when ALL form of radio fail, like after a large EMP, smoke singles will still work. Where is there demand for smoke singles?

The point is, "IF" things are so bad that ONLY code will get through, there are people that like code and they WILL be there to do it. But to REQUIRE it for everybody is like requiring every American to learn smoke singles.

Lets keep it in perspective. Allow code, yes. Encourage code, yes. Require code, don't be foolish.

The next major breakthrough in communications is out there. Don't shun it's development by running off the person that will bring it to the world by hamstringing them with code. "Don't through out the baby with the bath water!"

Ron Julian NOOEF.